MOURYOU NO HAKO CH6B

PROOFER: DS

SCANNER, TRANSLATOR, CLEANER: KURONEKO

DARKtower
scanlations

GLOSSARY

*1 TOKUSA NO HARAE – THE NAME OF A SHINTO RITUAL. "HARAE" MEANS TO RID OF OR PURIFY. "TOKUSA" IS WRITTEN AS "TEN KINDS", AND REFERS TO THE TEN GODLY TREASURES GIVEN TO A GOD, EXPLAINED IN THE SAME PAGE

*2 SENDAI KUJI HONGI – THE NAME OF A SET OF HISTORICAL DOCUMENTS OF JAPAN. SAID TO BE WRITTEN SOMETIME IN THE 800'S TO THE 900'S

*3 HIRATA ATSUTANE – A CLASSICAL SCHOLAR AND DOCTOR WHO LIVED DURING THE END OF THE EDO PERIOD (1603 – 1868)

*4 MONONOBE – THIS IS SIMPLY A FAMILY NAME BUT IT IS SAID TO BE GIVEN TO THE FAMILY OF THE DESCENDENTS OF THE GOD NIGIHAYAHI-NO-MIKOTO. THEIR NAME LATER CHANGES TO "ISONOKAMI"

*5 HEIAN ERA – THE NAME OF THE TIME PERIOD SAID TO BE BETWEEN 794 – 1185 OR 1192

*6 NIGIHAYAHI-NO-MIKOTO – AS EXPLAINED A LITTLE ABOVE, HE WAS A GOD THAT APPEARS IN JAPANESE MYTHS. HE IS SAID TO BE THE EARLIEST ANCESTOR OF A COUPLE FAMILIES INCLUDING THE MONONOBE

*7 ICHI NI SAN SHI (1-4)- THE MOST COMMON AND NORMAL WAY TO COUNT NUMBERS IN JAPANESE

*8 HI FU MI (1-3) – ANOTHER WAY OF COUNTING NUMBERS, BUT OLDER. YOUNGER GENERATIONS PROBABLY ONLY KNOW HOW TO COUNT UP TO 10 IN THIS WAY AT THE MOST. MOST PEOPLE ONLY USE THIS TO COUNT UP TO 3 OR 4

*9 HI FU MI YO... – I THINK KYOGOKUDO EXPLAINS THIS, BUT THIS IS JUST SIMPLY COUNTING NUMBERS FROM 1 TO 10.

*10 ISONOKAMI'S WAY OF PUTTING SOULS TO REST – PRETTY STRAIGHTFOWARD, BUT THE IMPORTANT PART IS THAT ISONOKAMI IS MONONOBE'S NEW FAMILY NAME

*11 SOTE NATE IRI... – AGAIN, KYOGOKUDO EXPLAINS THIS BUT THIS IS ALSO JUST COUNTING NUMBERS IN A DIFFERENT WAY FROM 1 TO 10

*12 SHINPI – USUALLY, THIS WORD, MEANING "MYSTICAL" OR "MYSTERIOUS", IS WRITTEN AS FOLLOWS 神秘 WITH THE CHARACTERS FOR GOD AND SECRET, BUT HERE IT'S WRITTEN AS FOLLOWS 深秘 WITH THE CHARACTERS FOR DEEP AND SECRET.

*13 THE CHARACTER FOR BOX – THE CHARACTER FOR BOX IS USUALLY WRITTEN AS FOLLOWS 箱 BUT ONBAKO-SAMA USES THE FOLLOWING 筥 ("ON"AND "SAMA" ARE BOTH HONORIFICS). THIS CHARACTER IS VERY RARELY USED AND I DON'T KNOW IF A LOT OF PEOPLE CAN ACTUALLY READ THIS CHARACTER. JUST AS A SIDE NOTE, THE CHARACTER FOR THE TITLE OF THIS MANGA "MOURYOU NO HAKO", AND "HAKO" MEANING BOX, THE FOLLOWING CHARACTER IS USED 匣. THERE ARE A COUPLE MORE DIFFERENT CHARACTERS THAT MEAN BOX...

*14 I-NOVELS – A LITERARY GENRE IN JAPAN THAT STARTED IN THE EARLY 1900'S. IT CONSISTED OF AUTHORS TALKING ABOUT THEIR OWN EXPERIENCES IN THE FORM OF A NOVEL. ALTHOUGH IT'S CALLED "I"-NOVELS, IT WAS OFTEN WRITTEN IN THE THIRD PERSON.

*15 TENNIN GOSUI - THIS IS ACTUALLY EXPLAINED TOWARDS THE BEGINNING OF THE SERIES. IT'S A WORD USED IN BUDDHISM WHICH EXPLAINS THE 5 SYMPTOMS WHICH APPEAR BEFORE THE TENNIN OR ANGEL (HEAVENLY BEING) DIES

*16 IKA TOUSEN - A WORD TO EXPLAIN A FEELING SO GOOD, THEY RISE TO HEAVEN

*17 SHIKAISEN - THIS IS SAID TO BE SOMEONE WHO BECOMES A HERMIT OR AN IMMORTAL WIZARD BY DYING ONCE. THIS IS ALSO SAID TO BE THE LOWEST RANKING OF HERMITS. THIS COMES FROM A TAOIST WAY OF THINKING.

MOURYOU NO HAKO CH6B

OH BOY! THIS CHAPTER WAS JUST A PAIN TO TRANSLATE.
I ADDED A GLOSSARY PAGE FOR THIS CHAPTER
JUST TO MAKE IT A LITTLE BIT EASIER TO UNDERSTAND
KYOGOKUDO'S EXPLANATION . HOPEFULLY IT HELPS.
AND IF IT INTERESTS YOU, GREAT!

I DECIDED TO LEAVE IN A LOT OF THE ORIGINAL TEXT
THIS TIME SO YOU CAN LOOK AT THE CHARACTERS YOURSELF.
ALSO, I GOT A LITTLE BIT LAZY WITH THE TRANSLATIONS AND
LEFT SEKIGUCHI'S STORIES UNTRANSLATED SINCE
THE TEXT ITSELF WAS IRRELEVANT TO THE STORY.
BUT ALSO BECAUSE YOU CAN'T SEE THAT MUCH OF THE TEXT.
IT WOULD PROBABLY BE HARD TO UNDERSTAND THE
CONTENT ANYWAYS. EXCUSES, EXCUSES...

WELL ANYWAYS, THIS CHAPTER IS A VERY IMPORTANT PART
OF THE STORY SO I HOPE YOU ENJOY IT!

OH, OUR POLL IS STILL RUNNING, SO PLEASE VOTE IF YOU
HAVE TIME. THANX!

~KURONEKO

NOW... WHERE TO START

...KUBO CONNECTS THE DIS-MEMBERING TO ONBAKO -SAMA

COULD YOU...

EXPLAIN YOUR REASONING ?

THERE'S NO MISTAKE THAT THE 3 WOMEN ARE THE VICTIMS OF THE DISMEMBERING CASE. THE REASON WHY THE POLICE CAN'T COME TO THAT POINT IS BECAUSE THE 3 BARELY HAVE ANYTHING IN COMMON

I UNDER-STAND THAT, BUT THAT DOESN'T EXPLAIN THE MOTIVE

WHICH HAPPENS TO BE ONBAKO -SAMA

THAT'S MY POINT!

IT SEEMS UN-NECESSARY TO VICTIMIZE THE FOLLOWER'S DAUGHTERS

IF IT'S ABOUT A GRUDGE AGAINST THE CULT, THEN THEY JUST HAVE TO KILL THE LEADER

HUH?

ACCORDING TO CHUUZENJI-SAN,

THAT'S WRONG

HE'S TRYING TO GET MORE MONEY FROM THOSE WHO AREN'T PUTTING IN ENOUGH, BY MAKING THEM SUFFER-

I THINK THAT ONBAKO -SAMA HIMSELF IS THE CULPRIT!

IT'S ONLY A PERCEIVED NOTION THAT THE 3 VICTIMS WERE SUFFERING BECAUSE THEY HADN'T PUT IN ENOUGH MONEY

WHAT... DO YOU MEAN?

YOUR IDEA WASN'T BAD

BUT YOU'VE FALLEN INTO KIYONO'S TRAP

B-BUT IN REALITY-

WHEN KIYONO GOT HIS HANDS ON THIS, THE 3 FAMILIES HADN'T EXPERIENCED ANY MISFORTUNE

NOT ONLY THAT, ALL 3 HAD STOPPED BELIEVING

YES

MISFORTUNES HAD OCCURED AS PREDICTED, HOWEVER, NONE OF THEM PUT MORE MONEY IN

THEN... ABOUT THEM LEAVING THE CULT...

I MYSELF HADN'T COMPLETELY THROWN OUT THE IDEA UNTIL I SAW AOKI-KUN'S INFORMATION

PERHAPS HE HIMSELF BELIEVED THIS

I WAS... TRICKED...?

NOT EVEN YAKUZA WOULD DO THAT

THERE'S TOO MUCH RISK IN KIDNAPPING AND MURDER JUST TO RAISE MONEY

ALL 3 FAMILIES ARE CRITICAL OF ONBAKO -SAMA NOW

BESIDES THERE'S NO TIME TO BE PRAYING TO A BOX WHEN THEIR DAUGHTER'S MISSING

AH WELL BELIEVING ONLY GOT THEM THIS FAR

THEN... THEN TORIGUCHI -KUN'S INVESTI-GATION WAS COMPLETELY MEANING-LESS?

IT DIDN'T SEEM STRANGE BECAUSE OF THE ILLUSION CAUSED BY DISCRIMINATING SOMETHING AS OUT OF THE ORDINARY AS AN EMERGENT PSYCHIC

KUBO

ONBAKO -SAMA IS A PSYCHIC MADE UP

BY-

NO, IT WAS EXTREMELY HELPFUL

HUH?

WHY IS THAT?

WHEN YOU FOCUS ON KUBO, THE DIS-MEMBERING AND ONBAKO -SAMA COME TOGETHER

KUBO MADE UP ONBAKO -SAMA?

IT MAKES MORE SENSE THAN KUBO PRAYING...

WHY?

HOW IS THAT POSSIBLE? IT EVEN SAYS HOW MUCH MONEY THEY PUT IN

I THINK THAT IT'S ACTUALLY JUST AN ADDRESS BOOK

FIRST OFF, THIS FOLLOW-ERS LIST

ASANO KIYOMI

KANAGAWA ITSUKI CITY NINO

AIDA SHOWJI

KUDOKUBO

HM?

AIDA COMES AFTER ASANO

THAT'S RIGHT. THAT SEEMS RANDOM

THIS LIST IS IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER

BUT... LOOK CLOSELY

HEY! WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

YOU'RE RIGHT

THAT MAKES NO SENSE FOR AN ACCOUNTING BOOK..

THERE'S NO TOTAL AND THE AMOUNT

TAKE THIS APART AND LOOK AT THE EDGE

THEN, THE ONES WHO HAVE NO AMOUNT WRITTEN AREN'T FOLLOWERS BUT..

IF IT'S AN ACCOUNTING BOOK, IT'S ONLY NORMAL TO PUT IN NAMES IN THE ORDER THEY JOINED AND BY MONTH

IF YOU THINK ABOUT IT, IT'S WEIRD THAT IT'S IN ALPHA-BETICAL ORDER

IT LOOKS LIKE IT USED TO BE A NOTEBOOK AND SOMEONE CUT OUT THE NECESSARY PARTS.

IT'S BEEN CUT WITH SOMETHING

B... BUT~...

THOSE IN-VOLVED

BY THE WAY, THERE ARE 21 PEOPLE WITH NO WRITTEN AMOUNT.

OUT OF THOSE, KIYONO PREDICTED MISFORTUNES TO 9 OF THEM

OUT OF THOSE 9, 4 DIED OF OLD AGE

AND THE OTHER 5 DIDN'T RAISE THE AMOUNT, BUT SIMPLY LEFT

HUH?

WHO WERE THEY AGAIN?

THE OTHER 3 WERE YOSHIMURA GISUKE, NIKAIDO SUMI, AND KUBO SHUNKOU

TORIGUCHI -KUN KNOWS THE FIRST TWO VERY WELL

NOW THE PROBLEM IS THE REMAIN-ING 12

9 OF THEM WERE MERCHANTS WHO VISITED THE BOX MAKER

THAT'S UNRELATED TO THE PSYCHIC

AH~~! NOW I KNOW!

OWNER OF THE BATHING HOUSE

YOSHIMURA GISUKE

THESE TWO

ONBAKO -SAMA'S RECEPTIONIST

NIKAIDO SUMI

B..BUT THAT DOESN'T MAKE KUBO THE MASTER-MIND!

KUBO SHUNKOU

AND THAT LEAVES

KINDAI LITERATURE

近代文藝

-WELL, THAT'S CLEAR TO SOME PEOPLE.

IF YOU READ IT, IT'S OBVIOUS THAT ONBAKO-SAMA AND KUBO ARE CLOSELY RELATED TO EACHOTHER

TRUE BY THE WAY, SEKIGUCHI -KUN, HAVE YOU READ KUBO'S FIRST WORK "THE COLLECTOR'S GARDEN"?

NOPE WHAT ABOUT IT?

HOW ABOUT YOU GUYS?

HUH? NO.

おおおお

THAT'S

WHY DO YOU COLLECT THEM?

THEIR SIN AND GUILT

THE QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS CONTINUED ENDLESSLY, AND-

AFTER THE PRIEST SPOKE OF HIS DEEPEST SINS

HE HIMSELF TURNED INTO A STONE

ううううう……

THAT'S THE STORY

HOWEVER, THE ASCETIC ALSO BECAME A PRISONER OF THE HOLLOW HEART AND TAKES ON THE GARDEN

WHAT DOES THAT TELL US?

THE KEY IS THAT IT'S A PRIEST OF THE ISE SHRINE AND AN ASCETIC FROM MOUNT HIKO

AND?

WEIRD STORY

The award winning Kubo Shunkou had lived by the Sai River of Fukuoka during his childhood and lived near the Ise Shrine in his youth. The Sai River area is said to be an area where mountain religions were very popular. Kubo believed that his childhood experiences affected his work. Kubo also said that he became interested in the shrine rituals of the Ise Shrine. If not for these experiences, this piece of work would surely not have been born.

I HADN'T CONNECTED IT TO KUBO THEN, BUT ACCORDING TO THE "SINSEI LITERATURE"

YES THAT'S RIGHT

.....

YOU SAID THE OTHER DAY

IF THERE WERE ANY FAMILY MEMBERS OF TERADA IN ISE AND CHIKUJO

BUT WHY ISE AND FUKUOKA?

-AS YOU CAN SEE, HE HIMSELF IS THE ACQUAINTANCE RELATED TO CHIKUJO AND ISE

IT'S EXPLAINED STRAIGHT-FORWARDS

WELL YOU WOULDN'T UNDERSTAND EVEN IF YOU HEARD THEM

ONBAKO -SAMA'S PRAYERS.

YOU HEARD THEM TOO

LOOK AT THIS

AMATSUKUNI NO MIOYA OSHIE MIKOTONORISHITE MAWSU
KURUSHII ITSUWI TOKORO ARERA, KONO JYUJITSUCHI WO SHITE
HI FU MI YO I MU NA YA KO TO MOROCHIKORANE TO ITTE
FURUHE YURA YURA SHI FURUHE

天神の御祖教へ詔りしを曰く
若し痛む処有らば茲の十宝を令て
一二三四五六七八九十と謂ひて
布留部 由良由良止布留部

AMATSUKUNI NO MIOYA OSHIE MIKOTONORISHITE MAWSU
MOSHII ITAMU TOKORO ARERA, KONO ASHINO UTSUDO KURU
SHIHAPI NO ONBAKO NO SHITE
SOTE NATTE WI SANI YA CHISU II WE KOROSHITE MASU
SHIFURU FURU YURA YURA SHIFURU FURU

アマツカミノミオヤ教エ詔リシテ曰ク
モシ痛ム処有ラバ、コノアシノウツボナル
シンピノ御宝ヲシテ
ソテナテイツサニタチスイメロロシテマス
シフル.フル.ユラ.ユラ.シフル.フル

THEY'RE SIMILAR..

THE LEFT IS ONBAKO -SAMA'S PRAYER, BUT THE RIGHT ..

THIS IS..?

I THINK THAT THE PRAYER ITSELF IS MUCH OLDER

IT'S AN EXTREMELY OLD PRAYER. HRATA ATSUTANE[3] POINTED OUT THAT IT WAS WRITTEN DOWN BY MONONOBE'S[4] ANCESTORS SO IT WAS PROBABLY WRITTEN IN THE HEIAN ERA[5] BUT

THE RIGHT IS THE TOKUSA-[1] NO HARAE PRAYER FROM THE "SENDAI KUJI HONGI"[2]

THAT DOESN'T SHOW HOW IT'S CONNECTED TO KUBO

UHH.. SO I UNDERSTAND THAT ONBAKO -SAMA COPIED THIS PRAYER BUT

OF COURSE THIS ALONE COULDN'T CREATE ONBAKO -SAMA'S PRAYER

IT'S SAID TO CURE ANY ILLNESS AND EVEN RESURRECT THE DEAD

THE JYUPPOU ARE THE TEN SACRED TREASURES GIVEN TO NIGIHAYAHI -NO-MIKOTO'S BY THE GODS WHEN HE WENT DOWN TO EARTH. SUPPOSEDLY, HE'S THE EARLIEST ANCESTOR OF THE MONONOBE NAME

一二三四五
六七八九十

AOKI-KUN, HOW WOULD YOU READ THIS?

ICHI, NI, SAN, SHI, GO- *7 RIGHT?

HOW ELSE?

HI, FU, MI *8

SO MANY PEOPLE THOUGHT OF DIFFERENT WAYS TO READ THEM

HOWEVER, THE "KUJI HONGI" DIDN'T WRITE HOW TO READ THEM

IN THEIR OWN WAY

IN THEIR OWN WAY?

ISONOKAMI SHRINE WAS THE SHRINE THAT CONDUCTED FUNERALS FOR THE MONONOBE FAMILY

THAT IS ISONO-KAMI'S WAY OF PUTTING SOULS TO *10 REST

THAT'S RIGHT THE CORRECT WAY IS "HI FU MI YO I MU NA YA KO TO MOROCHI-RORANE" *9

I SEE!
IF YOU DIDN'T KNOW THE WAY IT'S READ AT SE SHRINE, ONBAKO-SAMA'S PRAYER COULDN'T BE MADE!

AND IN THE MIDDLE AGES, THE PRIESTS AT ISE READ IT THIS WAY,

SOTE NATE IRI SANI TA CHISU !! ME KORO SHITE"[11]

WHY IS THAT?

SHINPI IS USUALLY WRITTEN WITH A DIFFERENT CHARACTER"[12]

深秘の御加

AND THERE S ALSO THE WAY THEY SAY SHINPI NO ONBAKO

YES

IT ENSHRINES THE DEVILS SLAIN BY MOUKOAKU MABOKUSEN, THE ONE WHO OPENED UP KUBOTE MOUNTAIN

DEVILS?

AND THERE, THERE'S A SHRINE THAT ENSHRINED DEVILS CALLED THE KISHINDEN

UPSTREAM THE SAI RIVER WHERE KUBO GREW UP, THERE'S A MOUNTAIN CALLED KUBOTE

ANOTHER BOX?

A BOX

THE OBJECT OF WORSHIP AT THE K'SHINDEN JUST HAPPENS TO BE

AND INSIDE THE POT, A DEVIL IS SEALED

HOWEVER, THIS BOX IS SEALED TIGHTLY AND THERE'S A POT INSIDE

THE BOX THAT SEALED THE DEVIL IS CALLED THE "SHINPI NO ONBAKO"

AH.. I SEE..

EVEN THE CHARACTER USED IS THE SAME[13]

THE SEALED BOX

THE POT INSIDE

ONE SEALED
A DEVIL,
THE OTHER-

IT'S THE
EXACT SAME

AS THE TOOLS
USED FOR
CLAIRVOYANTS
THAT HYOUE
FOUND-

A MOURYOU

AND AOKI-KUN, I JUST HEARD THIS BUT

AND THAT PERSON IS KUBO

I THINK THERE'S DEFINITELY SOMEONE WHO GAVE HYOUE THAT INFORMATION

WHA..

WHAT DID YOU SAY!?

KUBO SHUNKOU WEARS GLOVES ALL THE TIME

AND THE OTHER DAY

A GLOVED MAN APPEARED NEAR KUSUMOTO YORIKO

ALSO, ONBAKO-SAMA USED TO BE VISITED BY SOMEONE WEARING GLOVES

A MAN WITH GLOVES WAS SEEN BY THE WITNESS SEVERAL TIMES

IT CAN'T BE A DIFFERENT PERSON.

THAT KUBO ?

KUBO IS THE CULPRIT?

OF THE DIS-MEMBERING CASE

THIS WAS PLANNED SEKIGUCHI -KUN

YEAH, IT'S TOO PERFECT IF IT'S JUST A COINCIDENCE

THERE ARE OTHER GIRLS.

SHE'S IN DANGER

THOSE TWO HAVE MOST LIKELY ALREADY MADE CONTACT

PLANNED ..? WHY..

WHY...

WHY IS IT YORIKO?

BECAUSE OF THIS

AND THEIR ADDRESS IS IN ONBAKO-SAMA'S ADDRESS LIST

THERE'S TWO SIMILARITIES BETWEEN THE VICTIMS

THEIR AGE IS 14 OR 15

AND NEXT.

KAKIZAKI TOMIKO

KAKIZAKI YOSHIMI

OZAWA SABURO

OZAWA TOSHIE

BUT

HE'S GOING AFTER FAMILIES WITH DAUGHTERS AROUND 14 OR 15 .?

ASANO HARUKO

ASANO HARUKO

KUSUMOTO KIMIE

KUSUMOTO

AFTER KUSUMOTO YORIKO, THE SHINODA FAMILY SHOULD BE NEXT

NO BUT WAIT!

THERE'S FOUR VICTIMS IN THE DISMEMBERING CASE WITH YOUR EXPLANATION, SHE WOULD HAVE BEEN THE FIRST-

ASANO HARUKO WAS THE SECOND VICTIM

ASANO HARUKO WAS THE FIRST

THE BODY PARTS FOUND AT SAGAMI LAKE ARE A TOTALLY DIFFERENT CASE

WHA... WHAT!?

HOW CAN YOU SAY THAT!?

THE LEG AT SAGAMI LAKE AND THE OTHERS WERE ALL IN BOXES!

IF YOU SAY THEY'RE THE SAME BECAUSE THEY'RE SIMILAR, THAT WOULD MAKE SEKIGUCHI -KUN A MONKEY

HE IS

HE JUST LOOKS LIKE A MONKEY, BUT HE'S HUMAN

H...HEY, SHUT IT!

LISTEN

THE LEG AT SAGAMI LAKE WAS IN A METAL BOX AND THROWN OUT

THE ARM WAS BARE AND FOUND ON THE ROAD

ALSO, THE TORSO AND OTHER PARTS HAVE BEEN FOUND

ERR..

CAN YOU SAY THE CASES ARE THE SAME?

THERE WERE NO OPEN SPACES

AFTER THAT, ALL PARTS WERE WRAPPED IN COTTON AND PLACED IN WOODEN BOXES

DROPPED ..?

THE RIGHT ARM

WAS DROPPED DURING TRANS-PORTATION

HOW DO YOU KNOW THAT?

YOU CAN ALSO GET TO SAGAMI LAKE BY TRAIN

AND A TRUCK WAS USED FOR THE ONE AT SAGAMI LAKE

THE OTHERS WERE PROBABLY MOVED BY TRAIN

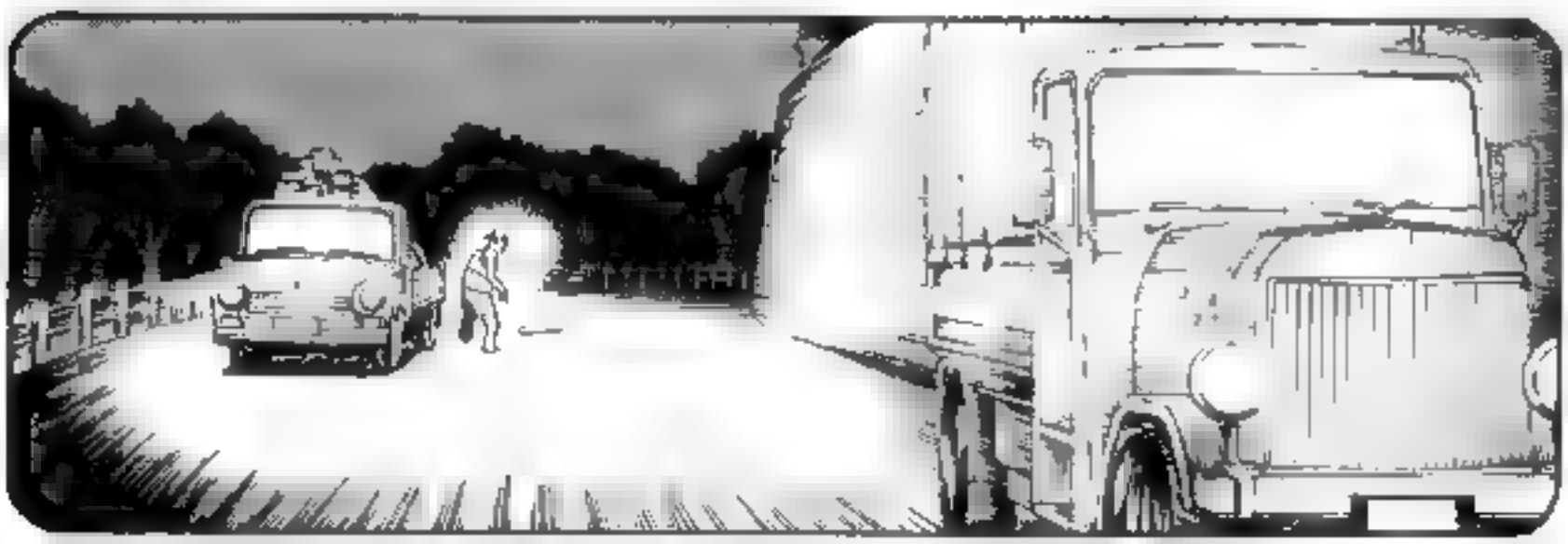
BUT THE LOCK OF THE TRUCK BED WAS BROKEN-

THE CULPRIT HEADED TO SAGAMI LAKE WITH THE ARMS, LEGS AND TORSO TO GIVE A WATER BURIAL

IT PROBABLY HAPPENED LIKE THIS.

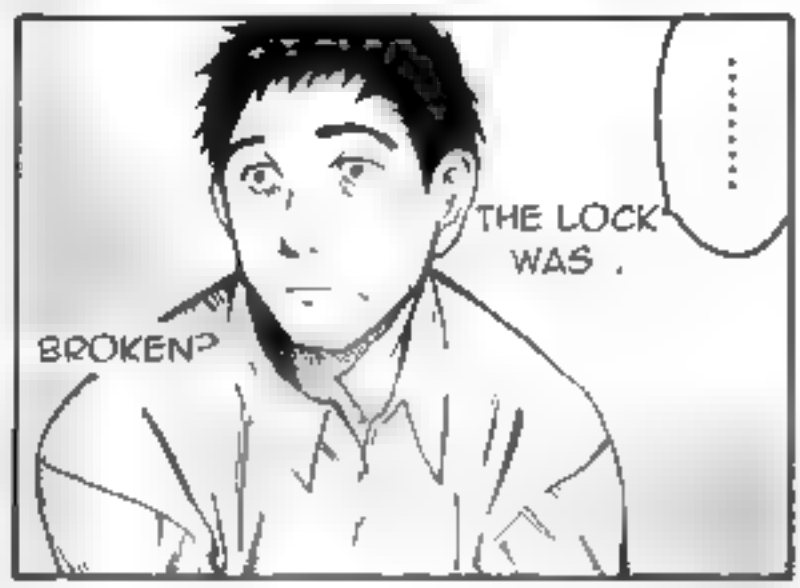
AND WHEN THEY FINALLY GOT TO THE LAKE, THEY REALIZED THE BOX WITH THE ARMS WAS GONE-

THEY HURRIED BACK TO GET THE LEFT ARM AND BOX AND-



THAT'S RIGHT, THEY'RE MORE CHILDISH.. IT'S LIKE THEY'RE FILLING SPACES BECAUSE THEY'RE THERE

THE ONE AT SAGAMI LAKE IS MORE RITUALIZED WHEREAS THE OTHERS ARE MORE-
IMPULSIVE


.....
THE LOCK WAS .
BROKEN?

SO THEY ONLY PICKED UP THE LEFT ARM WHICH IS WHY IT WAS NEVER FOUND
I SEE
I GUESS YOU CAN'T SAY. I DROPPED THAT RIGHT ARM

WHAT'S KUBO'S MOTIVATION?

WHAT'S HIS CONNECTION TO HYOUE?

WHY DID HE CREATE ONBAKO -SAMA?

IMPULSIVE?

KUBO, CHILDISH?

.....

I DON'T UNDERSTAND KYOUGOKUDO

THAT KUBO SHUNKOU?

I'VE BECOME FRIENDS WITH THE WRONG PERSON

IS THIS RELATED TO KANAKO'S CASE?

HE'S SEEN KANAKO -CHAN

BESIDES, IT'S ONLY MY THEORY THAT KUBO SHUNKOU IS THE CULPRIT-

IT'S USELESS TO THINK OF HIS MOTIVATION

DON'T — ASK ALL AT ONCE

KYO-GOKUDO, YOU'RE HIDING SOMETHING

WHA- WHAT!?

ANYWAYS, SEKI-GUCHI -KUN!

COME ON — COME ON

I DON'T UNDERSTAND AT ALL!! BE MORE STRAIGHT-FORWARD!

WELL.. YOU CAN SAY THAT THAT'S HIS MOTIVATION BUT IT'S NOT DIRECTLY RELATED TO IT ..

WELL I HAVEN'T READ IT SO I CAN'T SAY ANYTHING

HM? OH .

WHAT DID YOU THINK WHEN YOU READ KUBO'S "THE COLLECTOR'S GARDEN"?

DIARY ENTRIES ..? YOU MEAN LIKE AN I-NOVEL?

THAT KUBO'S WORKS ARE PRETTY MUCH DIARY ENTRIES

I THINK

SHOULD I SAY, IT'S AS HOW THE PRIEST IN "THE COLLECTOR'S GARDEN" FELT-

.....

I'M SAYING THAT THE REASON KUBO MADE UP ONBAKO-SAMA IS..

HMM

HM?

IT SEEMS A LITTLE ILLOGICAL FOR YOU

ISN'T THAT.. A BIT TOO MUCH?

..YOU MEAN TO COLLECT PEOPLE'S MISFORTUNE?

WHAT THE PRIEST FELT?

IS THIS

"THE GIRL IN THE BOX"

PART 1

KUBO SHUNKOU

WELL, THEN LET'S LEAVE THAT ALONE

HMM

THE MOTIVATION FOR THE DIS-MEMBERING CASE-

THAT STORY HAS A SCENE WHERE A BODY IS DISMEMBERED AND PACKED IN A BOX

HM, WELL

"THE GIRL IN THE BOX" IS HIS MOTI-VATION ..?

WHAT DO YOU MEAN?

HEY! THAT'S NOT FAIR KYOGOKUDO!

IF WRITING ABOUT A MURDER MAKES YOU A MURDERER THEN ALL MYSTERY NOVELISTS WOULD BE SERIAL KILLERS

WHAT!? WE CAN'T IGNORE THAT

THE FACT THAT THE BODY PARTS WERE IN BOXES HASN'T BEEN RELEASED TO THE PUBLIC

AUGUST 31ST .. OH, SHE'S NOT THE FIRST VICTIM..

SEP-TEMBER 6TH

TRUE

AND KUBO WROTE THAT AS A DREAM

AOKI-KUN, WHEN WAS THE FIRST VICTIM FOUND?

. A DREAM?

KUBO WAS ASKED TO WROTE A STORY ON AUGUST 30TH

IF THE CRIME WAS COMMITTED ON SEPTEMBER 5TH, THERE WERE 5 DAYS IN BETWEEN

IT'S NOT IMPOSSIBLE FOR HIM. HE'S KNOWN TO BE A FAST WRITER

SO .. THIS PIECE SHOWS THE PROCESS OF THE MURDER ..? BUT ..

HE S? I DIDN'T KNOW THAT

WHAT DID YOU THINK WHEN YOU READ THAT

WASN'T IT WEIRD?

IT WAS WEIRD-

A PROTAGONIST THAT HATES SPACES- -

HIS WEIRD HABIT OF HAVING TO FILL IN THOSE SPACES

IT WAS BIZARRE BUT HAD A WEIRD REALITY TO IT- -

NO NOT ONLY THAT, IT WAS STRANGELY CREEPY-

I THINK THIS IS THE RESULT OF KUBO TRYING HARD TO HIDE THE FACT THAT THIS IS ABOUT HIMSELF

THIS NOVEL USED NO PRONOUNS

I YOU HIS YOUR

IT SEEMS ON PURPOSE AT FIRST BUT

HE

IF THE SECOND HALF IS RELEASED, THINGS WILL BECOME MORE APPARENT BUT WE CAN'T WAIT

YOU THINK SO?

THAT'S NOT ALL--

.....

THAT'S DE-CEPTIVE LOGIC

KYOGOKUDO'S STILL HIDING SOMETHING

SOMETHING THAT PLAYS A LARGE PART IN THE CASE

YES, WE SHOULD SEE IF KUBO HAS AN ALIBI.-

IT'S ONLY A PRESUMPTION, IF YOU BELIEVE ME THEN INVESTIGATE IT

KUBO .. THE CULPRIT..

WHAT? WHAT IS IT?

THE GLOVED MAN IS ALSO A SUSPECT IN KANAKO'S CASE

SEE! THIS IS WHAT HAPPENS WHEN YOU HIDE SOMETHING

IF IT WASN'T KUBO, THEN WHO..

WHO'S THE CULPRIT FOR THE OTHER 3 CASES?

BUT ..

KIBA TOLD ME

AND YUZUKI YOUKO SEEMS TO HAVE TAKEN BACK HER TESTIMONY

AH, THOSE GLOVES WERE A DIFFERENT COLOR

WHAT?

SHE WANTED TO POINT THE POLICE TO SOMEONE ELSE WHEN THE SUSPICION DIRECTED AT HER TROUBLED HER

IS THAT..

SO

WHAT IS IT KYO-GOKUDO ?

?

.....

THAT, AOKI -KUN

.....

BUT.. THEN WHAT YORIKO SAW-

THAT WAS ME

WHY ARE YOU JOKING AT A TIME LIKE THIS?

WHAT?

.....

THIS

THEN WHAT ARE YOU .

NO, I WAS HOME THAT NIGHT

THEN YOU WERE AT THE MUSASHI KOGANEI STATION PLATFORM THAT NIGHT?

目眩

ぐにゃりと目の前の世界が
壁が、床が、天井が。私と、
成していた凡ての物質が、
を形作ることを放棄し、
行く。

目眩、
ある晴れた
だ。
私は

融け

!!

THIS IS MY..

THIS IS THE GREAT MASTER OF I-NOVELS, SEKIGUCHI TATSUMI'S, NEWEST WORK

BUT THE CONCLUSION IS A WRECK. THIS MAY BE THE GREATEST OF HIS WORKS AS A WRITER BUT THE END IS JUST SO EXTREME IT'S HARD TO PUT IN WORDS-

IT'S THE FIRST TIME KYOGOKUDO HAS PRAISED MY WORK -

..WELL SEKIGUCHI TURNS HIS EXPERIENCE INTO A PIECE OF ART FAR MORE SO THAN KUBO, SO IT'S HARD TO TELL AT FIRST

AS PER USUAL WITH I-NOVELS, THIS WORK IS ALSO BASED UPON A PAST EXPERIENCE. AN EXPERIENCE OF OURS WHEN WE CAME UPON A CERTAIN CASE

A SUDDEN KNOCK ON THE DOOR. WHILE I AM PONDERING WHETHER TO OPEN THE DOOR, THE WOMAN OPENS IT WITHOUT THOUGHT.
THERE, A MAN DRESSED IN BLACK, WHO LOOKS LIKE A MONK OF VIRTUE, BUT AT THE SAME TIME, LIKE AN INTELLIGENT SCHOLAR, IS STANDING.
"GOOD EVENING. I AM AN ASSASSIN WHO WILL PUT AN END TO ALL STORIES," HE SAYS. IT IS TOO DARK TO SEE HIS FACE.
HIS CLOTHES ARE PITCH BLACK, AS IF DYED THAT WAY AND WEARS SOMETHING LIKE GAUNTLETS OR GLOVES ON HIS HANDS.
"NOW, LET'S GET TO WORK", THE ASSASSIN DRESSED IN BLACK TAKES HIS GLOVED HANDS AND GRABS THE BACK OF THE WOMAN'S NECK.
HE PUSHES HER INTO THE LAKE IN THE PAINTING AND GIVES A GOOD PUSH ON HER BACK.
THE WOMAN SINKS TO THE BOTTOM OF THE FAR OFF LAKE WITHOUT A WORD. THE ASSASSIN SAYS "ONE SOUL" AND PASSES THROUGH THE WIND TUNNEL IN MY CHEST AS I STARE BLANKLY AND CHASES AFTER THE HALF OF THE WOMAN WHO ESCAPES.
AH, HOW I HOPE SHE LIVES. I STARE INTO THE ABYSS AND LOOK AT THE WOMAN'S BODY SUNKEN TO THE BOTTOM OF THE PAINTING.

ISN'T THAT GLOVED MAN DRESSED IN BLACK YOU, KYOGOKUDO?

YES

AND THE SCENE WHERE THE GLOVED MAN PUSHES THE WOMAN OFF-

DID YORIKO-

YORIKO'S TESTIMONY WAS ON THE LAST DAY OF SUMMER BREAK, AUGUST 31ST

NO WAY

RELEASED TODAY
本日発売

THAT DAY, YORIKO BOUGHT TWO OF THE LITERATURE MAGAZINES KANAKO USED TO READ

AND WENT TO THE CAFE

KINDAI LITERATURE
近代文藝

YORIKO READ THOSE UNWILLINGLY TO BE WITH KANAKO BUT

SHE TOLD KIBA THAT SHE LIKED THE FANTASTICAL AND STRANGE STORIES A LITTLE BIT

NO WAY

BUT...

THAT STILL...

NO WAY

SHE READ THIS AND MET THE ASSASSIN DRESSED IN BLACK AND WAS INSPIRED

SO WHAT WAS THAT STRANGE STORY PRINTED IN THAT DAY'S "KINDAI LITERATURE"?

THIS IS PRETTY MUCH THE ONLY ONE

やりと目の前の世界が捻
天井が。私と、私
の物質が、その
融け

関口

NOT A CLUE...

NO...

AOKI-KUN AND TORIGUCHI-KUN, DO YOU KNOW THESE WORDS?

天人五衰
屍解仙
羽化登仙

TRUE, BUT...

YORIKO HAS BEEN READING YOUR STORIES FOR SURE

THA..

THAT'S ONLY A POSSI-BILITY...

BUT YORIKO KNEW THEM, AND THE MEANINGS TOO

I DO-

THAT'S BECAUSE ALL THESE WORDS CAME UP IN SEKIGUCHI'S WORKS

天人五衰

屍解仙

羽化登

踏仙境

霧の白い

ほ

現

UKA TOUSEN[16] AND SHIKAISEN[17] ARE FROM "THE IMMORTAL LAND OF THE DANCES"

TENNIN GOSUI[15] IS FROM "ANGEL TRANS-MIGRATION"

天女転生

「天人五衰？」私は聞き返した。

天界に住む天人がそ
五つの兆しが現われる、頭
衣が垢で汚れる、
が穢れ悪臭を放つ、
の席に戻る事
の苦脳は

関

湖は

の先

NO WAY

THAT'S RIGHT

THE REASON WHY SHE LIED BY USING FICTIONAL PEOPLE...

NO WAY

NO WAY

NO WAY

NO WAY SHE...

THE ONE WHO PUSHED KANAKO OFF THE PLATFORM WAS
YORIKO